

# BIRD Foundation

## ACCELERATING GROWTH THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

**BIRD**

Israel-U.S.

Binational Industrial Research  
and Development Foundation



The BIRD Foundation promotes and facilitates collaborations between U.S. and Israeli companies in various technological fields for the purpose of joint product development. It provides conditional grants of up to 50% of a project's budget for approved projects.

In addition to providing conditional grants, the Foundation assists companies to identify potential strategic partners and facilitate introductions.



## BIRD Partnerships

Any pair of companies, one Israeli and one American, may jointly apply for BIRD support so long as they have the combined capability and infrastructure to define, develop and commercialize innovative products based on industrial R&D.

Once the companies have decided to collaborate, they jointly submit a brief executive summary of the proposed project. Following a timely review, BIRD advises the companies on whether they should submit a detailed proposal based on BIRD's guidelines. The BIRD Foundation Board of Governors meets twice a year to select projects for approval. Projects submitted to the BIRD Foundation are reviewed by evaluators appointed by the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the Israel Innovation Authority.



## Risk-Sharing Enhances Cooperation

The BIRD Foundation offers conditional grants for joint development projects on a risk-sharing basis. The Foundation funds up to 50% of each company's R&D expenses associated with the joint project and up to a maximum of \$1.5 million per approved project. BIRD acquires no equity in the companies supported and no intellectual property rights in their products. The Foundation shares the risk with the companies and repayments are due if commercial revenues are generated as a result of the project.



## BIRD's Track Record

BIRD's scope extends to Advanced Manufacturing, Agrotechnology, Cleantech and Environment, Communications, Construction Tech, Electronics, FinTech, Healthcare IT, Homeland Security and Cyber Security, Life Sciences, Semiconductors, Software, Water and Wastewater technologies and other areas of innovative technology with commercial potential.

Since BIRD's inception in 1977, almost 1200 projects have been approved generating direct and indirect sales of more than \$10 billion.

Examples of U.S. companies that have received BIRD funding for projects with Israeli companies include: Abbot Medical Optics, American Water, Arkema, B. Braun, Broadcom, Ciba Specialty Chemicals, Cincinnati Machines, Dell, EMC, General Electric, General Dynamics, Hasbro, John Deere, Johnson & Johnson, McGraw-Hill Education, Medline Industries, Molex, New York Power Authority, Pioneer, Portland General Electric Co., Pratt Paper, Target Health, Tribune Content Agency, Whirlpool and many others.

Examples of Israeli companies that have received BIRD funding for projects with U.S. companies include: 3D Systems-Simbionix, Audiocodes, ColorChip, Elbit Systems, Evogene, Foamix Pharmaceuticals, InSightec, Kamada, mPrest Systems, Motorola Solutions Israel, Netafim Irrigation, Nice Systems, Notal Vision, NovellusDx, Ree-Softwheel, ReWalk Robotics, Solar Edge, Opgal, Waves Audio, WSC Sport and others.



## BIRD Programs & Submission Cycles

The general **BIRD** program conducts two yearly funding cycles (every six months) and covers all industry sectors. A yearly cycle focused on energy (**BIRD Energy**) is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, the Israel Ministry of Energy jointly with the Israel Innovation Authority. Another cycle is dedicated to homeland security (**BIRD HLS**) supported by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Israel Ministry of Public Security. A forth program, (**BIRD Cyber**) is the most recent program established by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Israel National Cyber Directorate (INCD) to promote collaboration in cybersecurity. In all, approximately 30 projects are approved each year. See upcoming Calls for Proposals at [www.birdf.com/call-for-proposals/](http://www.birdf.com/call-for-proposals/).

**BIRD encourages companies of all sizes to contact our offices to explore partnering and funding opportunities**

Please refer to our website [www.birdf.com](http://www.birdf.com) or phone our offices, for the next cycle deadlines.

**Headquarters** | Tel Aviv, Israel | Tel: 972-3-6988300 | E-mail: [nina@birdf.com](mailto:nina@birdf.com)

**U.S. East Coast/Midwest** | Ms. Andrea Yonah, [andream@birdf.com](mailto:andream@birdf.com)

**West Coast** | Ms. Anat Bujanover, [anatb@birdf.com](mailto:anatb@birdf.com)

**South** | Ms. Anat Ben Yosef, [by.anat@birdf.com](mailto:by.anat@birdf.com)



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